



Division of Higher Education

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Jacob Oliva
Secretary

Ken Warden, Ed.D.
Commissioner

September 5, 2025

The Honorable Ricky Hill, Chair
The Honorable Justin Gonzales, Chair
ALC - Lottery Oversight Committee
State Capitol Building
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Senator Hill and Representative Gonzales:

Pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated 6-85-205 (g) (1) (A), I am submitting for your review the enclosed report on the status of Academic Challenge students for fiscal Year 2025. It should be noted that we can only report the current status of students as to whether they maintained their eligibility at the end of the spring 2025 semester. Students have until October 1, 2025 to provide documentation that they have completed summer coursework to maintain their eligibility. The Arkansas Division of Higher Education will provide the requested information on students who dropped out or lost their scholarship in our December report.

The attached report shows the current status of all students who received an Academic Challenge award in the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2025.

Should you require additional information, please let me know and we will be happy to provide.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Warden", is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Dr. Ken Warden, Ed.D.
Commissioner

**Arkansas Division of Higher Education
Academic Challenge Scholarship Program
Student Statuses - All Cohorts
Fiscal 2025**

Traditional

Current Status	Student Count	Average High School GPA	Average ACT	Average College GPA	Male	Female	Unknown Gender	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black (Non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	White (Non-Hispanic)	2 or More Races	Unknown Race	Amount Paid	Average Attempted Hours	Average Earned Hours
Completed	4,626	3.85	24.6	3.56	1,757	2,809	60	22	152	266	344	3,514	159	169	\$ 19,418,595	25.5	25.4
Dropped	311	3.36	21.2	3.41	129	159	23	2	7	29	25	225	-	23	\$ 599,625	0.8	0.8
Eligible	15,050	3.85	23.7	3.55	5,286	8,375	1,389	104	481	978	1,298	10,571	154	1,464	\$ 54,239,020	0.2	0.2
Pending Renewal	4,051	3.55	21.7	3.27	1,661	2,073	317	42	87	395	361	2,793	35	338	\$ 13,439,522	0.4	0.4
Overall-Summary	24,038	3.79	23.5	3.55	8,833	13,416	1,789	170	727	1,668	2,028	17,103	348	1,994	\$ 87,696,763	5.1	5.1

Non-Traditional

Current Status	Student Count	Average High School GPA	Average ACT	Average College GPA	Male	Female	Unknown Gender	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black (Non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	White (Non-Hispanic)	2 or More Races	Unknown Race	Amount Paid	Average Attempted Hours	Average Earned Hours
Completed	1,095	3.43	21.0	3.33	388	581	126	5	24	144	123	605	31	163	\$ 4,013,250	1.4	1.4
Dropped	44	3.22	20.2	3.45	14	20	10	-	-	5	2	26	1	10	\$ 92,000	1.5	1.5
Eligible	1,418	3.37	20.8	3.45	478	660	280	6	34	158	134	728	49	309	\$ 5,146,400	0.4	0.4
Pending Renewal	545	3.27	20.0	3.53	182	266	97	1	9	105	50	252	20	108	\$ 2,044,826	0.4	0.4
Overall-Summary	3,102	3.37	20.7	3.39	1,062	1,527	513	12	67	412	309	1,611	101	590	\$ 11,296,476	0.8	0.8

All Categories

Current Status	Student Count	Average High School GPA	Average ACT	Average College GPA	Male	Female	Unknown Gender	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black (Non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	White (Non-Hispanic)	2 or More Races	Unknown Race	Amount Paid	Average Attempted Hours	Average Earned Hours
Completed	5,760	3.79	24.1	3.55	2,161	3,409	190	27	176	413	470	4,148	190	336	\$ 23,486,845	20.7	20.6
Dropped	358	3.35	21.1	3.42	144	181	33	2	7	34	27	254	1	33	\$ 696,375	0.9	0.9
Eligible	16,472	3.81	23.5	3.53	5,768	9,035	1,669	110	515	1,137	1,432	11,302	203	1,773	\$ 59,391,420	0.2	0.2
Pending Renewal	4,596	3.52	21.6	3.31	1,843	2,339	414	43	96	500	411	3,045	55	446	\$ 15,484,348	0.4	0.4
Overall-Summary	27,186	3.75	23.2	3.55	9,916	14,964	2,306	182	794	2,084	2,340	18,749	449	2,588	\$ 99,058,989	4.6	4.6

**Arkansas Division of Higher Education
Academic Challenge Scholarship Program
Student Statuses - 2025 Cohort
Fiscal 2025**

Traditional

Current Status	Student Count	Average High School GPA	Average ACT	Average College GPA	Male	Female	Unknown Gender	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black (Non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	White (Non-Hispanic)	2 or More Races	Unknown Race	Amount Paid	Average Attempted Hours	Average Earned Hours
Completed	128	3.75	21.3	-	49	75	4	-	1	4	15	104	-	4	\$ 424,500	0.0	0.0
Dropped	238	3.27	20.7	-	105	112	21	2	4	21	20	170	-	21	\$ 435,375	0.0	0.0
Eligible	7,634	3.83	23.1	-	2,603	4,164	867	60	222	538	656	5,281	3	874	\$22,451,708	0.0	0.0
Pending Renewal	2,441	3.46	21.2	-	1,032	1,205	204	29	46	237	221	1,693	2	213	\$ 7,055,785	0.0	0.0
Overall-Summary	10,441	3.73	22.6	0.00	3,789	5,556	1,096	91	273	800	912	7,248	5	1,112	\$30,367,368	0.0	0.0

Non-Traditional

Current Status	Student Count	Average High School GPA	Average ACT	Average College GPA	Male	Female	Unknown Gender	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black (Non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	White (Non-Hispanic)	2 or More Races	Unknown Race	Amount Paid	Average Attempted Hours	Average Earned Hours
Completed	285	3.40	20.6	-	78	128	79	1	1	37	30	119	11	86	\$ 1,017,500	0.0	0.0
Dropped	23	3.34	21.4	-	6	9	8	-	-	3	2	10	-	8	\$ 43,625	0.0	0.0
Eligible	788	3.35	20.3	-	236	329	223	4	15	98	71	356	13	231	\$ 2,773,469	0.0	0.0
Pending Renewal	299	3.20	19.3	-	89	134	76	-	7	59	25	118	8	82	\$ 1,084,689	0.0	0.0
Overall-Summary	1,395	3.32	20.19	0.00	409	600	386	5	23	197	128	603	32	407	\$ 4,919,283	0.0	0.0

All Categories

Current Status	Student Count	Average High School GPA	Average ACT	Average College GPA	Male	Female	Unknown Gender	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian/Pacific Islander	Black (Non-Hispanic)	Hispanic	White (Non-Hispanic)	2 or More Races	Unknown Race	Amount Paid	Average Attempted Hours	Average Earned Hours
Completed	413	3.54	20.9	-	127	203	83	1	2	41	45	223	11	90	\$ 1,442,000	0.0	0.0
Dropped	261	3.27	20.8	-	111	121	29	2	4	24	22	180	-	29	\$ 479,000	0.0	0.0
Eligible	8,422	3.79	23.0	-	2,839	4,493	1,090	64	237	636	727	5,637	16	1,105	\$25,225,177	0.0	0.0
Pending Renewal	2,740	3.43	21.0	-	1,121	1,339	280	29	53	296	246	1,811	10	295	\$ 8,140,474	0.0	0.0
Overall-Summary	11,836	3.69	22.41	0.00	4,198	6,156	1,482	96	296	997	1,040	7,851	37	1,519	\$35,286,651	0.0	0.0